

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 28, 2004. Claims 1, 2, 4 to 16 and 25 to 43 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 6, 11, 41 and 43 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that Claims 41 and 43 are allowed, and that Claims 38 to 40 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

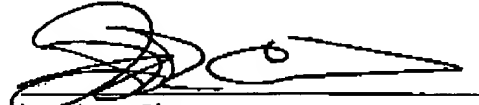
Independent claims 1, 6 and 11 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter for Claims 38 to 40. Specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the features of Claim 38, Claim 6 has been amended to include all of the features of Claim 39 and Claim 11 has been amended to include all of the features of Claim 40. In addition, Claims 38 to 40 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 6 and 11 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. However, as each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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